(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau



- 1 0000 200100 11 00100 000 1000 1001 1001 1001 1000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000

(43) International Publication Date 22 September 2005 (22.09.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/087328 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: 65/12, 47/00

A63B 69/40,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/AU2005/000338

(22) International Filing Date: 11 March 2005 (11.03.2005)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 2004901316 2004904357

12 March 2004 (12.03.2004) AU 3 August 2004 (03.08.2004) AU

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): REALISTIC PITCHING MACHINES PTY LTD [AU/AU]; P.O. Box 1133, Fyswhick, ACT 2609 (AU).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): KELLY, Haydn [AU/AU]; 147 Springvale Drive, Weetangera, ACT 2614 (AU). BRODRICK, Colin [AU/AU]; 6 Fernleigh Drive, Googong, NSW 2620 (AU).

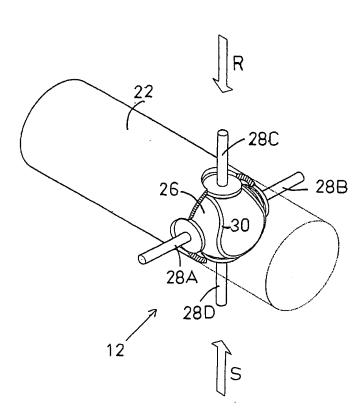
(74) Agent: PIZZEYS; P.O. Box 291, Woden, ACT 2606 (AU).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: BALL PROPELLING MACHINE



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to an assembly (12) and method of spinning a seamed ball (26) prior to being propelled from a ball propelling machine (10). The assembly can simulate balls propelled in sports such as baseball. The assembly includes at least one pair of opposed ball supports (28A, 28B) to firstly position a loaded ball in a predetermined alignment and to subsequently apply a predetermined amount of spin to the ball prior to being fired from the assembly.